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Uttoxeter Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1938.

Council Offices,
Uttoxeter,
July, 1939.

Uttoxeter
Rural District Council.



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Uttoxeter Rural District Council.

Chairman of the Council : Mr. W. BAILEY, J.P., C.C.
Vice-Chairman : Mr. S. MacBEAN.
Medical Officer of Health : JOHN A. GUY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector : CHAS. E. INGHAM.

ANNUAL REPORT

— OF THE —

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Uttoxeter Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of Uttoxeter Rural District for the year 1938.

Area	55,228 acres
Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population (Mid. 1938) ...	9,530
No. of Inhabited Houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Books ...	2,485
Rateable Value	£27,409
Sum represented by product of 1d. Rate, £114	

This District forms a large part of the Eastern Boundary of Staffordshire. With the exception of the town of Uttoxeter, where a few industries are carried on, the area is purely agricultural. The farms here produce

milk almost entirely. On the average the standard of living is not high, but there are relatively few unemployed labourers. From inspection of school children one notices a steady decline in the size of the average family, and also the rapid drift of the population to the towns continues unabated, with the results that farmers are having difficulty in obtaining labour.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate...	66	67	133
Illegitimate	2	0	2
TOTAL	68	67	135

Birth-Rate per 1000 of estimated population, 14·4.

Still-Births.

	Males.	Females.	Total
Legitimate...	2	4	6
Illegitimate	0	0	0
TOTAL	2	4	6

Still-Birth-Rate per 1000 total (live & still) births, 44·4.

Deaths.

Death-Rate per 1000 of estimated population, 11·5

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 Births.
Puerperal Sepsis... ...	0	0
Other Puerperal Causes ...	1	7·4
TOTAL	1	

Death-Rate of Infants under 1 year of age.

All Infants per 1000 live births ...	51·8
Legitimate Infants per 1000 live births	51·8
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 live births	Nil.

Deaths from	Cancer (all ages) ...	14
Do.	Measles do. ...	0
Do.	Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Do.	Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	1

Principal Causes of Death in Uttoxeter Rural District during the year 1938.

ALL CAUSES.	Males.	Females.
Heart Disease	19	13
Cancer	5	9
Senility	3	8
Other Circulatory Diseases... ...	7	2
Other Defined Diseases	4	4
Celebral Hæmorrhage	2	3
Tuberculosis of Respiratory Organs...	0	4
Cong. Debility, Prem. Birth ...	2	2
Other Violence	2	1
Influenza	1	2
Peptic Ulcer	2	0
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	0	2
Bronchitis	0	2
Diabetis	0	2
Syphilis	0	1
Diphtheria	1	0
Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ...	1	0
Pneumonia	0	1
Ill. Defined or N.K.	0	1
Suicide	1	0
Other Puerperal Diseases	0	1
Acc. and Chr. Nephritis	0	1
Other Digve. Diseases	1	0
TOTAL	51	59

Laboratory Facilities.—The County Council maintain an excellent Public Health Laboratory at Stafford. This is extensively used by Private Practitioners and local Public Health Department.

Ambulance Facilities.—No change has occurred in the Ambulance Facilities during the past year. Most Infectious Disease Cases are removed in ambulance to Yarnfield Isolation Hospital, but a few have had to be removed in private car to Burton Isolation Hospital. One looks forward to the erection of the proposed Mid-Staffordshire Joint Isolation Hospital as a solution to the rather unsatisfactory hospitalisation of Infectious Disease Cases.

Nursing in the Home.—It is satisfactory to note that there are now no villages or parts of the district without the services of a Nurse. The various Nursing Associations within the District are as follows :—

DISTRICT.	Nurses.
Mayfield	One.
Rocester	One.
Uttoxeter Rural	One.
Draycott-in-the-Clay ...	One.
Abbots Bromley	One.

There are no Treatment Centres, Clinics or Hospitals within the district.

Public Cleansing.—There is definite need for a proper scavenging scheme for the principal villages of the district, viz.—Rocester, Mayfield, and Abbots Bromley. The present system, whereby each householder removes his own refuse or the owner removes it for him, has resulted in some cases of an unbelievably large accumu-

lation of refuse, and the unfortunate householder or tenant is at a loss where to put the next load. The Council are considering means of dealing with this.

Smoke Abatement.—The district is almost entirely agricultural, and so nuisance from smoke does not arise.

Camping Sites.—There are no special sites for camping in this area. Except for an occasional camper there has been no organised or other camping within this area.

Schools.—There are fourteen schools within the district, and the sanitary condition of these was satisfactory. Only six schools are without a "main" supply of water.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.—No action has been taken with reference to this.

Water Supply.—No substantial changes were made in the water supply to the district during the past year. The villages of Denstone, Rocester, Bramshall and Stramshall have a piped water supply from the Urban Council's supply. This has been examined approximately quarterly, and has been found satisfactory on all occasions. As regards the villages of Abbots Bromley, Blithfield, and Kingstone, which are supplied from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Co., two bacteriological tests made of this water during the past year were satisfactory. The village of Mayfield, which is supplied by the Council's own system, was tested bacteriologically twice and found satisfactory.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN A. GUY.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES other than Tuberculosis during the year 1938.

DISEASES.	AGE PERIOD IN YEARS.												TOTALS	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 years and over.			
Scarlet Fever ...			3	3	1	10	7	6	7				37	33	0
Diphtheria			1			1							2	2	1
Pneumonia										1			1	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...									1				1	0	0
Erysipelas										1	4		5	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS.—New Cases and Mortality during the year 1938.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year								
1 year								
5 years								
15 years			1			1		
25 years				1		1		
35 years	2					2		
45 years								
55 years		1						
65 years and upwards ...								
TOTALS ...	2	1	1	1	0	4	0	0

Uttoxeter Rural District Council.

Council Offices,
Northgate,
Uttoxeter, Staffs.

To the Medical Officer of Health,
Uttoxeter Rural District Council.

Dear Sir,

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report in accordance with the Regulations issued by the Ministry of Health, in connection with the work done in the Public Health Department during the year ended December 31st, 1938.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supplies in the various Parishes still continue to develop satisfactory. Owing to the lack of water in the wells, the response of property owners has been very good, a large number of houses and farms being connected to the mains. The piped supplies have been found to be a boon, and are much appreciated in the parishes supplied.

The schemes of Marchington, Draycott-in-the-Clay, Kingstone and Abbots Bromley are well supported, and a large number of connections have been made. The water is bought in bulk from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

About eighty per cent. of the property in Abbots Bromley is connected to the mains, this being due to the lack of other supplies and the proximity of the mains to the majority of the houses and farms. In many other districts the property is scattered, and therefore the revenue is not so high.

Leigh.—This scheme has been passed by the Ministry of Health, and the work is to be put in hand about the second week in July.

Newborough.—The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company have been asked to provide a supply to the district, and the work is to be put in hand almost at once.

Ellastone.—Application has been made to the Uttoxeter Urban District for a supply to this district, but the scheme is in abeyance at the present time.

Wootton.—No supply has yet been found for this parish.

Mayfield.—The parish is supplied by a bore hole, and the water is pumped to a reservoir in the higher reaches. A large amount of new property has been connected to the main in the past year, but the extra demand has not caused any shortage of water in the well.

Croxden.—This parish is supplied in bulk from the Cheadle Rural District Council, and has a good piped supply.

General.—During the past twelve months the supplies from wells have been very spasmodic, and extensions to the Council's mains at Bramshall and Denstone have been carried out in order to provide adequate supplies to farms and houses.

SEWAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Abbots Bromley.—The sewage works consists of a Septic Tank and land irrigation on a sewage farm owned by the Council. This has an area of about 100 acres. The effluent is run into channels and turned from one place to another as occasion requires.

Denstone.—These works consist of Septic Tanks, Bacteria Beds and Revolving Sprinklers. The effluent is very satisfactory. Many new houses have been connected to the sewer, but the works are capable of dealing with the increased amount of work.

Ellastone.—These works consist of Septic Tanks and Bacteria Beds, the effluent going into the River Dove, and is quite satisfactory. A large volume of storm water finds its way into the works.

Stramshall.—A new sewerage scheme has just been completed here, and it is in working order.

Rocester.—This parish is urban in character. There is a sewerage system, but it is totally inadequate as far as the disposal works are concerned. A new sewage works is necessary.

The remaining parishes have no real system of sewage disposal, the chief methods being Cesspool and Septic Tanks, and Bacteria Beds.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There is no general system of conversion of Pail Closets into Water Lavatories. The number of Closets converted into W.C.'s in the past twelve months is nine.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

In the parishes of Mayfield, Rocester, Denstone and Stramshall, refuse is collected on payment. A scheme for the whole of the rural area is being considered, but is not in operation yet.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There is only one swimming bath in the rural area. This is at Denstone College, and no action was necessitated by the Health Authorities during the past twelve months.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number of Inspections made	163
Number of Notices served during the year, all informal notices	41
As a result of such notices being served, 41 of the above have been abated.	

Shops.—Shops have been inspected, and it has not been necessary to take action under the Shops Act, 1934.

Smoke Abatement.—No action has been necessary during the past year in this direction.

Schools.—The sanitary conditions of the schools are good. The water supplies in some cases are bad, but these will be remedied in some cases when the new water mains are laid and the schools are connected.

HOUSING.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the past twelve months.

1.—(A) Total number of houses inspected for defects during the past twelve months, under the Public Health Acts and Housing Acts ...	163
(B) Inspections made for the purpose ...	203

2.—(A) Number of houses (included in sub-head 1) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 65

(B) Number of Inspections made for the purpose 89

3.—Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... Nil.

4.—Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to in the previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 21

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without serving notices.

Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 35

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(A)—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1.—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... Nil.

2.—Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice.

(A) By the Owners Nil.

(B) By the Local Authority in default of Owners Nil.

(B)—Proceedings under the Public Health Act.

1.—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to

be remedied. Up to the present only informal notices have been served, and have been included in previous parts of this Report.

2.—Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice

(A) By the Owners (see remarks under item 1) Nil.

(B) By the Local Authority in default of Owners (see remarks under item 1) Nil.

(C)—Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1.—Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil.

2.—Number of houses demolished in pursuance of the Demolition Orders Nil.

(D)—Proceedings under Sections 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. Undertaking given by the owners not to re-occupy for human occupation ... Nil.

Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1936.

(A) 1—Number of houses overcrowded at end of year 21
2—Number of families dwelling therein ... 21
3—Number of persons dwelling therein ... 146

(B) 1—Number of cases of new overcrowding during the past year 1

(C) 1—Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the past year... Nil.

2—Number of persons concerned in such cases ... Nil.

(D)—Particulars of any cases in which dwellings have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps to abate overcrowding Nil.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.—The standard of Milk Sheds and Milk still continues to improve. There is no difficulty in the majority of cases in getting the owners to bring the sheds up to the standard required by the Accredited Milk Scheme. There is a decided improvement generally, especially where the water mains have been laid, to afford a constant supply of good water.

MEAT INSPECTION.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed (if known)	889	—	84	4816	1083
*Number Inspected ...					
All Diseases, except Tuberculosis. Whole Carcases Condemned ...	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Carcases of which some part or organ was Condemned	4	—	—	—	—
Per Cent. of the Number Inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	·45 %	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only. Whole Carcase Condemned ...	89	—	—	—	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was Condemned	40	—	—	—	—
Per Cent. of the Number Inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—

*No Record Kept at present.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

CHAS. E. INGHAM,

SURVEYOR AND SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Harvey and Wain, Uttoxeter.